GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2541
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2003
UPGRADING OF DOORDARSHAN KENDRA AT BARMER
VSM (RETD.) COL. CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan had installed a 10 KW High Power Transmitter at Barmer(Western Rajasthan) during February, 1992 to counter Pakistan`s anti India propaganda;

(b) if so, whether the original height of this tower was reduced from 300 meters to 100 meters by Doordarshan;

(c) if so, whether the Government are aware that this transmitter is operating at one tenth of its capacity and is now covering less than half the envisaged area;

(d) if so, whether this mismatch and lack of capacity synchronization between transmitter and the height of tower have rendered the expenditure largely unproductive and defeated the very purpose for installing this High Power Transmitter;

(e) if so, whether the Government are considering to increase the height of this High Power Transmitter to 300 meters as originally planned to effectively counter Pakistan`s anti India propaganda; and

(f) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government so far in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) A 10 KW High Power Transmitter (HPT)was installed at Barmer in February, 1993, and commissioned on 1 KW power with temporary tower in March, 1997

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) & (d) The Transmitter installed at Barmer is presently operating on 1 KW power.Coverage range of the transmitter is presently about 60 Kms, which is expected to increase to about 110 Kms, on commissioning of the transmitter with full power of 10 KW, consequent upon the erection of 100 M tower.

(e) & (f) The work of erection of 300 Mts tower at Barmer was awarded to M/s TriveniStructurals Ltd. in February, 1997. Keeping in view the natural elevation of the site and marginal increase in resultant coverage owing to sparsely populated area, it was decided to reduce the height of the tower to 100 Mts. Tenders for erection of 100 Mts tower have been invited.